India average shortage of 7.1 per cent during the same period.

(b) The shortage was due to demand outstripping the availability of energy.

(c) and (d) Government of Tamil Nadu has brought to the notice of Cental Government regarding over drawal of power by APSEB. Andhra Praesh as well as other constituents of the Southern Region have been directed to maximise generation and to draw power strictly according to their respectice shares, and maintain grid discipline. Southern Regional Electricity Board and Powergrid Corporation are continuously monitoring implementation of the directions and aret aking approprite remedial measures.

Rationalisation of Power Tariff

7885. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has expressed concern over irrational tarift and huge transmission losses and if so, the details of observations made and the reaction of Government thereto;

(b) what is the status of the proposal for setting up National Energy Board and since when it is pending;

(c) the specific steps proposed to reduce subsidies and make State Electricity Boards function of commercial basis; and

(d) what is the total quantum of power subsidy for agriculture at present, State-wise, and the steps proposed to phase out such subsidy within a stipulated timeframe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) World Bank has been suggesting, from time to time, various measures to improve the financial health of the power sector which, inter-alia, includes rationalisation of tariff structure of State Electricity Boards, reduction in transmission and distribution losses etc. for seeking assistance from World Bank. The Central Government has been concerned about it and the same has also been discussed in various fora including the State Power Ministers' Conference.

(b) There is no proposal to set up a National Energy Board.

(c) A number of measures have been initiated to improve the financial viability of the SEBs and to reduce the subsidy. These, inter-alia, include signing and monitoring of Operational and Financial Action Plan (OFAP) by Power Finance Corporation (PFC), rationalisation of tariff, regular payment of rural electrification subsidy by the State Governments, improvement in Plant Load Factor, reduction in T&D losses, conversion of State Government loans into equity etc. Further, some State Governments such as Orissa, have proposed Electricity Reform Bill, which, inter-alia, is meant for setting up of a Regulatory Commission and separate corporation for generation, transmission and distribution.

(d) Subsidy for power supplied to the Agricultural Sector, State-wise for the year 1993-94 is given at Annexure. Steps proposed to phase out subsidy are indicated at (c) above.

Mobilisation of resources for Kayamkulam combined cycle project

7886. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Power/NTPC delegation has undertaken foreign visit to mobilise resources for Kayakulam Combined Cycle Project;

(b) if so, what is the result thereof; and

(c) what is the quantum of resources being mobilised for Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Project and various other power projects thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI MATI. URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A delegation, comprising of representatives from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Ministry of Power, visited World Bank, Washington, D.C. in the 2nd week of May 1995, primarily to settle the issue of bid documents for the Kayamakulam Combined Cycle Power Project. During the discussions, various issues connected with the bid documents have been resolved. An understanding has also been reached with the World Bank for issuing of the bid documents. The tender for the main plant equipment is being issued with an indication that World Bank funding is likely to be available for this project.

(c) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1310.58 crores, based on 3rd quarter, 1994 price level. The World Bank has already provided a loan of US dollar 400 million for funding NTPC's investment programmes for new projects, subject to their meeting the eligibility criteria laid down in the loan agreement. Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project Stage-II is presently being implemented by NTPC under the time-slice loan of the World Bank.

उत्तरी भारत में विद्युत संकट

7887. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या **विद्युत** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 1 मई, 1995 के "द फाइनेंशियल एक्सप्रेस" में "पावर क्राइसेस लाइकली टु हिट नार्थ इंडिया सीवियरली" शीर्षक अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि आठवां पंच-वर्षीय योजना के अन्त तक देश के उत्तरी राज्यों में विशेषकर पंजाब, हरियाणा राजस्थान, उत्तरप्रदेश और दिल्ली इत्यादि में विद्युत की मांग और आपूर्ति के बीच अंतर 50 प्रतिशत तक होने का संभावना हैं ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में सरकार का अनुमान क्या है ;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इस अंतर को पाटने के लिये कोई उपाय किये हैं; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा है ?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती उर्मिलाबेन चिमनभाई पटेल) : 1995–96 के दौरान उत्तरी क्षेत्र के प्रत्याशित विद्युत आपूर्ति की राज्यवार स्थिति इस प्रकार है :—

राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्र	आवश्यकता	उपलब्धता	अधिशेष/कमी (-)	
चण्डीगढ़	775	775	—	—
दिल्ली	13500	12983	—597	(4.4)